

[2nd March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Undoubtedly there are a number of villages where this strength can never be had, and am I to take it that in those villages the Labour department will never think of opening schools ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ What they generally do is this. For taking up a school I think we must have 55 pupils actually reading in it, but we must have a hundred children of school-going age in the locality before we can think of opening a new school.”

House-sites for Adi-Dravidas.

* 1487 Q.—**Mr. R. VEERIAN** : With reference to question No. 995 answered at the meeting dated 14th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) by whom information was given to Government to the effect that owing to faction among the Adi-Dravidas in the Ambattur village, Saidapet taluk, Chingleput district, only five applications were received for house-sites up to the middle of August last;

(b) whether the Government have already received my representation about the Adi-Dravida Conference held on 2nd December 1925 under my presidency in the Ambattur village containing the statements of the Adi-Dravidas of the village denying the answer given in clause (b) of the question No. 995, dated 14th December 1925;

(c) if so, what action the Government intend or propose to take now in assigning the lands for house-sites to the Adi-Dravidas; and

(d) what have become of the petitions that were submitted to the Tahsildar of Saidapet by the members of the depressed classes of Ambattur village for granting them house-sites up to this?

A.—(a) The information was based on the report of the Collector of Chingleput.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government have called for a report.

(d) The Government have no information.

Forests.

Additions to the military grass farm in the Bellary district.

* 1488 Q.—**Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR** : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the military grass farm was first constituted in the Bellary district, and the reserves or portions of the reserves included in it together with the extent thereof;

(b) the additions since made to it by the Government together with their respective extent, and the years when they were added;

(c) if this information cannot be easily compiled the additions made to the grass farm within the last fifteen years, together with details as to reserve and the year of transfer; and

(d) whether the Government have decided to add yet more land to the farm this year and, if so, which reserve and how much of it?

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A.—(a) The Military Grass Farms department was first allowed to exploit grass in the Sandur forests of the Bellary district in 1904–05; but no information is available as regards the names or areas of the reserves in which the Military Grass Farms department exploited grass prior to 1915–16.

(b) & (c) A statement ^a is appended.

(d) The question is under consideration of the Government.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“What is that particular reserve the addition of which is engaging the consideration of the Government?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I have stated in answer to the hon. Member's question that it is under consideration of Government. The hon. Member knows what his question is and the matter about which it is asked.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I know nothing, Sir.”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“The question was whether the Government decided to add yet more land to the farm this year and if so, which reserve and how much of it. The answer is that the whole question is under the consideration of the Government.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“Am I to take it that the Government are not at all contemplating any particular reserves for adding to this farm? Are there no proposals at all before the Government?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“There are certain proposals, and I think the proposal is what addition should be made.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“May I therefore know what those reserves are with reference to which the Government are considering the question?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I wish to have notice of the question.”

Mr. A. RAGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I have given notice enough, Sir. May I know whether the hon. Member has received any petitions with reference to this question?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I think there are some petitions if I remember right.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“Will the hon. Member give the public an opportunity of having their say before he passes orders on the subject?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I shall consider the request Sir.”

Grievances of Forest Rangers.

* 1489 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayoh Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received any resolution or representation from the Sixth Annual Conference of the Forest Rangers' Association; and

^a Vide Appendix I on page 89 infra.